

Office of the United States Attorney, Dennis K. Burke District of Arizona

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Arizona Man Sentenced to over 15 years for Assaulting a Federal Officer

TUCSON, Ariz. –William John Harris, 34, of Salt River Reservation, Arizona, was sentenced here by U.S. District Judge Linda R. Reade to 188 months in Federal Prison. Harris was found guilty by a federal jury on September 29, 2010 of three counts of Assault on a Federal Officer.

On May 28, 2008, while Harris was incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary in Tucson, he attacked corrections officers with a chair and a prison "shank." The attack injured two officers.

Harris' co-defendants, Philbert Anthone and Sanford Chiago, each pleaded guilty to one count of Assault of a Federal Officer in 2009. They were each sentenced to five years in prison which is to be served consecutively to the life sentences they are already serving for murder convictions.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The prosecution was handled by Jesse Figueroa, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08-00705-TUC RELEASE NUMBER: 2011-016(Harris)

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